



# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 08 March 2004

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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[www.whitehouse.gov/homeland](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)

## Daily Overview

- CNN reports recovery teams continue the search to locate people missing after a water taxi accident in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, when the boat capsized due to sudden high winds. (See item [6](#))
- Reuters reports the Maryland Department of Agriculture says that chickens at a farm on the state's poultry-heavy Eastern Shore have tested positive for the H7 bird flu strain. (See item [12](#))
- The Associated Press reports nearly one million people in southwestern China are without drinking water after chemicals polluted a river. (See item [16](#))

### DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. **March 08, Reuters** — **Venezuela, OPEC take oil prices to year highs.** Oil prices forged new one year highs Friday, March 5, as concerns that political strife in Venezuela could spin out of control combined with expectations that OPEC will keep its vow to cut output next month. **U.S refiners made plans for possible supply disruptions in Venezuela despite assurances from OPEC's third biggest producer that this would not happen.** The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) warned that with gasoline stocks below normal levels, any problems

**at a refinery or pipeline might trigger supply disruptions and push up prices.** OPEC member Venezuela is a leading supplier of crude and refined products to the United States. Venezuela said the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries would stick to its decision to cut production limits in April, despite rising prices. "We are firm in our decision to keep the one million barrel per day production cut to maintain our prices," Venezuelan oil minister Rafael Ramirez said on Thursday, March 4. Oil prices have found support from strong demand in China, the world's second-biggest oil consumer. Premier Wen Jiabao said that China would boost production of coal, electricity and oil products to ease its energy squeeze. Source: <http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/ssistory.mpl/business/energy/2434774>

2. *March 05, Reuters* — **Texas high voltage tie line knocked out by storms.** Severe storms that struck North Texas on Thursday, March 4, knocked out a high voltage tie line that carries power between Texas and the adjacent Southwest Power Pool, the grid operator said Friday, March 5. **The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) east direct current tie will be out of service for at least several days, the operator said. The line is one of two that carry power between Texas and the power pool.** The storms also knocked down power lines and poles and cut off service to about 40,000 North Texas customers, most of which had service restored by early Friday, local utilities said.

Source: [http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma\\_newsarticle1\\_reuters.htm?SMDOCID=reuters\\_pma\\_2004\\_03\\_05\\_eng-reuters\\_pma\\_TEXAS-HIGH-VOLTAGE-TIE-LINE-KNOCKED-OUT-BY-STORMS&SMContentSet=0](http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_reuters.htm?SMDOCID=reuters_pma_2004_03_05_eng-reuters_pma_TEXAS-HIGH-VOLTAGE-TIE-LINE-KNOCKED-OUT-BY-STORMS&SMContentSet=0)

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## **Chemical Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

3. *March 04, Federal Computer Week* — **Army wants FCS tech now.** The Army and industry must do everything possible to give Future Combat System (FCS) capabilities for soldiers fighting terrorism now rather than waiting until 2010 when the service will field the first FCS-equipped unit, said Brig General Philip Coker, director of capabilities development in the Futures Center at the Army's Training and Doctrine Command. "The challenge is to bring forward to the future the technologies that soldiers can use to fight the current war," Coker said. **General Peter Schoomaker, the new Army chief of staff, announced in October that he wanted any system or technology almost ready and planned for FCS given to soldiers currently in the field. FCS is the Army's next-generation fighting force of 18 smaller, lighter, rapid-deployable air and ground manned and robotic vehicles connected by a fast, secure communications network.**

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0301/web-army-03-04-04.asp>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

4. *March 04, wftv.com (FL)* — **Thousands in counterfeit cash showing up across central Florida.** Thousands of dollars in counterfeit cash have been appearing in cash registers around Central Florida since January. Police say the fake bills are being used at major retail stores. **So far, more than \$13,000 has been passed throughout Central Florida. The \$100 bills have been used in Osceola, Orange, Lake and Marion Counties.** According to police, the perpetrator goes into a store, buys a low priced item, and then gets genuine cash back. The bills were made in South America and then smuggled into the United States. Police don't have any suspects at this time.  
Source: <http://www.wftv.com/news/2898072/detail.html>
5. *March 04, General Accounting Office* — **GAO-04-501T: Combating Terrorism: Federal Agencies Face Continuing Challenges in Addressing Terrorist Financing and Money Laundering (Testimony).** The September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks highlighted the importance of data collection, information sharing, and coordination within the U.S. government. Such efforts are important whether focused on terrorism or as an integral part of a broader strategy for combating money laundering. **In this testimony, the General Accounting Office (GAO) addresses (1) the challenges the U.S. government faces in deterring terrorists' use of alternative financing mechanisms, (2) the steps that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have taken to implement a May 2003 Memorandum of Agreement concerning terrorist financing investigations, and (3) whether the annual National Money Laundering Strategy (NMLS) has served as a useful mechanism for guiding the coordination of federal efforts to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.** GAO's testimony is based on two reports written in September 2003 (GAO-03-813) and November 2003 (GAO-04-163) for the Caucus and congressional requesters within the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, as well as a February 2004 report (GAO-04-464R) on related issues for the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security. Highlights:  
<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d04501thigh.pdf>  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04501t.pdf>

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## **Transportation Sector**

6. *March 07, CNN* — **Three presumed dead in Maryland boat accident. Recovery teams worked Sunday, March 7, to locate three people — presumed to have been killed — in a water-taxi tragedy in Baltimore's Inner Harbor.** Witnesses blamed Saturday's boat capsizing on sudden high winds. Eleven people remained hospitalized, said Baltimore Fire Chief William Goodwin, two of them in critical condition. Divers were searching the cold waters of Chesapeake Bay for the missing people, who are presumed dead, the chief said. Ellen Engleman-Conners, chair of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), said Sunday's focus would be to interview witnesses and passengers. "We'll be putting together the full NTSB safety investigation that we always do," she said, including reviewing the vessel's records, the training of the crew and the safety record of the operator. "A pontoon boat is a very stable

vessel," she said, "Wind conditions would clearly be an issue." Goodwin said the storm that blew over Baltimore's Inner Harbor Saturday afternoon was unusual. Water taxis are a popular form of transportation at Baltimore's Inner Harbor.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/US/South/03/07/water.taxi.capsized/index.html>

7. *March 07, New York Times* — **New, smaller planes crowding skies once left to big jets.** For years the skies have been crowded with airplanes, but the planes' capabilities have kept them at different altitudes, with small, piston-driven models a few thousand feet above ground, commuter turboprops in the 20,000-foot range and jet airliners at 30,000 feet or higher. **Now, to the dismay of aviation experts, an increasing number of planes may begin competing for space at the same higher altitudes. The turboprops are disappearing and being replaced by "regional jets," which fly at big-jet altitudes. Some of the older, larger jetliners are disappearing, too, each being replaced by two small regional jets.** The number of corporate jet flights is on the rise as the economy rebounds, in planes owned by major corporations or shared through fractional ownership, sold somewhat like time-share condominiums. And manufacturers of private planes are planning new "microjets" ~ small, relatively cheap planes designed for flying at the altitudes, if not the speeds, of the big airliners. **Experts agree that a proliferation of small jets is part of the problem. There are almost 500 regional jets, or R.J.'s, on order, and they are entering the system at the rate of about 200 a year, representing nearly all of the growth in airliner aviation.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/03/07/politics/07TRAF.html>

8. *March 06, Democrat & Chronicle (Rochester, NY)* — **CSX track record reveals defects. CSX has fared markedly worse during inspections of its highway-crossing systems than its main railroad competitor in New York, according to a Democrat and Chronicle analysis of federal data.** The railroad's crossing signal equipment has been cited for defects at a rate that is four times higher than that of Norfolk Southern Railway, the analysis shows. CSX also has been involved in train-car accidents at road crossings more frequently than Norfolk Southern. The ability of CSX to maintain and upgrade its highway-crossing systems has become a major issue in the Rochester region, after a crossing malfunction at South Winton Road set the stage for the February 3 car-train accident that killed a Henrietta couple. The data on FRA inspections analyzed by the Democrat and Chronicle showed that CSX's overall defect rate was 33 percent. That means problems were noted in one out of every three items inspected by FRA officials. In a given inspection, an FRA inspector can look at multiple items -- at all the gates and lights at a given crossing, for instance, or at a series of records maintained by the railroad.

Source: [http://www.rochesterdandc.com/news/0306G93GLHG\\_news.shtml](http://www.rochesterdandc.com/news/0306G93GLHG_news.shtml)

9. *March 05, Department of Transportation* — **Enforcement of new hours-of-service rules begins.** Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta today, March 4, announced that state officials are being asked to begin enforcement of the new hours-of-service rules starting today. **The hours-of-service regulations put safety limits on the number of hours commercial drivers can work and operate trucks each day.** Since January 4, 2004, the Department's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and state officials have led an aggressive educational enforcement program designed to teach drivers about the new rules and ensure flagrant violations were rigorously enforced. The effort included the distribution of more than a million pieces of literature, countless seminars with the trucking community, and

thousands of phone call responses to drivers, questions. “We finally close the book on World War II–era rules that were too restrictive of drive times and too tolerant of dangerously long workdays,” said Secretary Mineta. “The new rules will help drivers earn a good living without having to put their lives on the line.”

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/fmcsa0304.htm>

10. *March 03, Xinhua News Agency – CEIS* — **North China port to position itself as container hub for northeastern Asia. Tianjin, a leading international port city in north China, is striving for the status of a world– class container hub in northeastern Asia in the next decade, with an annual container handling capacity of 17 million TEUs (twenty–foot equivalent units) targeted for 2015. An international business harbor, Tianjin Port currently operates 68 regular ship routes and does business with more than 300 ports around the world.** According to sources with the Tianjin port authorities, the port handled 3,015,400 TEUs of containers in 2003, placing itself in the fourth position among Chinese coastal ports, next only to Shanghai, Shenzhen and Qingdao. Ten large special container wharves will be built in the port by 2009, with an estimated investment of 7 billion yuan (843.37 million U.S. dollars) or more. Meanwhile, 20 supporting projects will be finished with a combined investment of 11.9 billion yuan (1.43 billion U.S. dollars) by 2010, the sources added. Statistics show that in 2003, the number of containers handled in China reached 48 million TEUs, ranking the first around the world.

Source: [http://cnni.wyellowbrix.com/pages/cnniw/Story.nsp?story\\_id=47954686&ID=cnniw&scategory=Transportation:Shipping&](http://cnni.wyellowbrix.com/pages/cnniw/Story.nsp?story_id=47954686&ID=cnniw&scategory=Transportation:Shipping&)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

11. *March 06, Associated Press* — **Postal Service checked 20,000 reports of powder. From powdered alfredo sauce mix to detergent to the sand included in invitations to a beach–front wedding, materials leaking from packages and envelopes have disrupted the nation's post offices more than 20,000 times since the 2001 anthrax attacks.** While nearly all have turned out to be false alarms, they take a toll on nerves and work time, and must be taken seriously because of the anthrax mailings and the more recent mailings of the poison ricin. While there isn't a pattern, more of the alarms tend to be in the East than in the West, probably because the anthrax attacks occurred in Eastern cities and workers there may be more sensitive to the potential danger, said Patrick R. Donahoe, the U.S. Postal Service's chief operating officer. **Postal inspector Molly McMinn said all have been false alarms other than the ricin and anthrax cases. Still, she said, responding to false alarms drains resources.**

Source: <http://www.indystar.com/articles/1/126880–2681–010.html>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

12.



*March 06, Reuters* — **Maryland confirms bird flu on poultry farm.** Maryland, a major poultry producing state, last month banned the sale of live poultry as a precaution against the disease spreading from neighboring Delaware. **On Saturday, March 6, the Maryland Department of Agriculture said that chickens at a farm on the state's poultry-heavy Eastern Shore near Pocomoke City tested positive for the H7 bird flu strain.** It was not clear if it was the highly infectious version of the H7 strain, and definitive tests will not be available before March 10, said Sue duPont, a department spokesperson. State officials ran tests on 118,000 six-week-old chickens at the farm this week after a large number of the birds died. **Some 71 poultry farms with 171 breeding houses within six miles of the infected site will be closely watched and tests will continue across the Delmarva Peninsula stretching across Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia until at least March 16, the department said.**  
Source: <http://www.forbes.com/markets/commodities/newswire/2004/03/06/rtr1289192.html>

13. *March 05, Reuters* — **USDA moves toward reopening Canada cattle trade.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) moved a step closer March 4 to allowing imports of some cattle from Canada by setting a 30-day period for public comments on the proposal. The USDA also said it would seek public comments on whether to allow imports of some beef from cattle older than 30 months, which is now prohibited. The USDA suspended beef and live cattle trade with Canada last May following the discovery of one case of mad cow disease in Alberta. **The USDA proposal to resume cattle trade by reopening the border to animals under 30 months was delayed by a case of mad cow disease in Washington state in December.** It was not yet clear how long the department would take to review the public comments before deciding whether to allow the resumption of cattle trade and expand beef trade. U.S. cattle industry leaders have said they will oppose trade until Canada changes rules that block Canadian imports of U.S. feeder cattle for parts of the year. The Canadian industry estimates that if the border opens to animals under 30 months, live cattle exports would range from 1 million to 1.2 million head annually.  
Source: [http://www.agriculture.com/worldwide/IDS/2004-03-04T233449Z\\_01\\_N04573037\\_RTRIDST\\_0\\_MADCOW-TRADE-CANADA-UPDATE-3.html](http://www.agriculture.com/worldwide/IDS/2004-03-04T233449Z_01_N04573037_RTRIDST_0_MADCOW-TRADE-CANADA-UPDATE-3.html)

14. *March 05, Dow Jones Newswires* — **USDA backs beginning voluntary livestock ID plan.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has said the creation of a national livestock identification program will be key in efforts to improve measures to prevent the spread of animal diseases in the U.S., but Undersecretary Bill Hawks said Thursday that program will likely be voluntary for producers, at least at the onset. Hawks, who is chief of USDA's Agriculture Marketing Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said the department believes "it shouldn't unduly increase the size of the government in the process." He told lawmakers at a House appropriations subcommittee hearing on agriculture that the identification program will begin as a voluntary option, and then may evolve into a mandatory program.  
Source: [http://www.agprofessional.com/show\\_story.php?id=23931](http://www.agprofessional.com/show_story.php?id=23931)

15. *March 05, Dow Jones Newswires* — **New approach found for controlling E. coli in pigs.** An Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientist has come up with an alternative to antibiotics to control E. coli, the leading cause of sickness and death in newborn and weaned pigs. According to ARS, each year, the U.S. swine industry loses millions of dollars to bacterial infections in young animals. **A growing resistance of E.coli to antibiotics makes**

**developing an effective replacement especially important.** Roger Harvey, a veterinary medical officer in the ARS Food and Feed Safety Research Unit, leads an effort to develop a mixed culture of beneficial bacteria that's being referred to as RPCF. Scientists think that RPCF might one day be able to replace today's antibiotic treatments, which are coupled with regulation of ambient temperature, improvement in hygiene, and applications of zinc oxide. Harvey's method involves colonizing young pigs' intestinal tracts with a mixture of beneficial bacteria obtained from other pigs. This helps establish healthy microbial populations in the gut much quicker than would otherwise occur. Those "good" bacteria attach to intestinal walls, blocking sites so that disease-causing, "bad" bacteria can't attach and compete for needed nutrients. Some of the colonizing bacteria also produce bactericidal compounds that work against disease-causing pathogens, further reducing their ability to colonize the intestinal tract. Source: [http://www.agprofessional.com/show\\_story.php?id=23930](http://www.agprofessional.com/show_story.php?id=23930)

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## **Food Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Water Sector**

16. *March 05, Associated Press* — **Drinking water shut off for one million in China.** Nearly one million people in southwestern China are without drinking water after chemicals polluted a river. **Authorities shut down water supplies Tuesday, March 3, after a combination of synthetic ammonia and nitrogen from the Sichuan General Chemical Factory leaked into the Tuo River in the densely populated province of Sichuan,** the Chinese-language Shanghai Morning Post reported. The Tuo feeds into China's main shipping artery, the Yangtze River. Water supplies for four residential areas were severely polluted and could remain cut for several days, the report said. Tests of new equipment, which failed to function properly, led to the accident, the official said. Residents in three Sichuan cities and counties — Jianyang, Zizhong, Neijiang — were affected, he said.

Source: [http://www.ajc.com/news/content/news/ap/ap\\_story.html/Intl/AP.V1542.AP-China-Polluted-.html](http://www.ajc.com/news/content/news/ap/ap_story.html/Intl/AP.V1542.AP-China-Polluted-.html)

17. *March 05, Denver Post* — **Denver to limit water use. Colorado needs at least an inch of new snowpack a week in March to reach an average April 1 snowpack, the yardstick utilities will use to decide next month if outdoor watering restrictions will be necessary this summer.** The state needs another four inches of snowpack to reach an average figure, and March typically delivers only 2.5 inches, said Mike Gillespie, Colorado snow survey supervisor for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. **The chances of getting that amount is less than 30 percent.** More than 80 percent of the water Colorado uses year-round comes from snow that piles up in the winter, melts in the spring and fills reservoirs in early summer. The weak snowpack has imperiled the regions that supply most of Denver's water. **Denver Water last month asked its 1.2 million customers to cut back, especially by holding off on lawn watering in April and May.** Aurora, Colorado's third-largest city, announced in January that

its residents will face mandatory watering limits for the third summer in a row as its depleted reservoirs continue slowly to recover from the prolonged drought.

Source: <http://www.denverpost.com/Stories/0,1413,36~53~1997572,00.htm>

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## **Public Health Sector**

18. *March 06, ScoutNews* — **West Nile blamed on hybrid North American mosquito. Since West Nile virus first appeared in North America in 1999, scientists have wondered why the disease has been far more prevalent here than in Europe. A new study suggests the reason may be found in a hybrid mosquito common to North America that bites both birds and humans, transmitting the virus from one to the other.** European mosquito species tend to bite either birds or humans, but not both, limiting transmission of the potentially fatal disease to people, researchers say. Dina M. Fonseca of the Smithsonian Institution, the study's lead author, said 40 percent of the mosquito population genetically analyzed in the U.S. are a type of hybrid *Culex* that will bite both humans and birds. Since birds are the main source of West Nile, the hybrid *Culex* serves as a perfect conduit to humans that may not exist to the same extent in Europe, said Fonseca.

Source: <http://www.healthcentral.com/news/NewsFullText.cfm?id=150373.7>

19. *March 05, Government Computer News* — **HHS frames dual-use oversight. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will lead a governmentwide effort to improve oversight of legitimate biological research that could be misused to threaten public health or national security.** HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson Thursday, March 4, announced the creation of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity, which will recommend guidelines for federally funded life sciences research that could have a dual use, such as development of vaccines or viruses to attack cancer cells. The National Institutes of Health, an HHS agency, will manage the board and its online presence. The board will begin work this summer on specific oversight strategies for federally conducted or supported potential dual-use biological research while taking into consideration national security and the needs of the research community. The board is part of a long-term process of outreach to domestic and international scientists, said John H. Marburger III, director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/25181-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/25181-1.html)

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## **Government Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

20.



*March 05, United Press International* — **New material detects radiation.** U.S. researchers said Thursday, March 4, they have developed new materials that could help drivers see in near-zero-visibility situations on the highway. **The materials, called metamaterials, extend the properties of naturally occurring materials and compounds.** University of California, San Diego researchers discovered that metamaterials show a magnetic response to radiation in the terahertz range, whose frequencies lie between those of infrared rays and microwave rays. **Metamaterials could help in defense against terrorism, the researchers explained, because certain chemical and bioterror agents such as anthrax absorb terahertz radiation. Since terahertz can penetrate clothing, it is of potential interest for airport screening of weapons and explosives.** Terahertz rays could also help pilots guide airplanes in foggy weather because water vapor cannot scatter terahertz rays, as it does conventional radars, researchers said.  
Source: <http://washingtontimes.com/upi-breaking/20040304-075126-2523.r.htm>

21. *March 04, Federal Computer Week* — **More planned for Oregon wireless system.** With construction of one of the country's biggest regional wireless networks almost completed, an Eastern Oregon public/private partnership already has plans to expand the system. The first phase will provide service to four eastern Oregon and Washington counties and seven cities, over a total of 600 square miles. **A newly developed Incident Response Information System (IRIS) will enable emergency management services to take immediate advantage of the network. It uses rugged handheld and laptop computers, integrated Global Positioning System and geographic information system mapping software to provide network users with real-time access to the floor plans and other information of buildings and facilities that could be involved in emergencies.** "All of the major infrastructures in the area covered [by the wireless network] are presented in images that can be accessed by the computers," said Fred Ziari, president and chief executive of IRZ Consulting, which developed IRIS. "All a user has to do is tap on the images, and it will bring up maps of exits, floor plans and anything else that people need information for during emergencies."  
Source: <http://fcw.com/geb/articles/2004/0301/web-oregon-03-03-04.as.p>

22. *March 04, Global Security Newswire* — **Agencies seek to 'immunize' buildings against terror attacks.** As the FBI scrambles to figure out who has been sending ricin to U.S. government facilities, scientists are placing new emphasis on the development of systems to make buildings "immune" to biological and chemical agents. The 2001 anthrax mailings and subsequent ricin scares have cast a spotlight on the potential for a devastating indoor biological or chemical attack. Although scientists say they can do little — short of supplying gas masks — to protect those in the immediate vicinity when a dangerous agent is released, systems to protect people in the rest of the building are approaching 100 percent effectiveness. **The focus is on developing "immune building" technologies to prevent the spread of dangerous agents through heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems.** "The most likely approach that would be used by terrorists would be to employ an aerosolizer to release the agents either into the ventilation duct or into general areas of the building," Penn State University immune building expert Wladyslaw Kowalski wrote in a recent paper. As a result, experts say, more and more buildings are equipping their HVAC systems with sensors to detect a biological or chemical attack, as well as with filters, airflow-diversion technology and neutralizing equipment to prevent the agents from circulating throughout the building.  
Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0304/030404gsn1.htm>

## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**



**23. *March 05, Computerworld* — Survey shows security improvements in private sector.** A survey of 100 CEOs was released last week by the Business Roundtable, an association of CEOs from companies with a combined workforce of more than 10 million and \$3.7 trillion in annual revenues. **Nearly all of the CEOs said their companies have significantly strengthened both physical and cybersecurity since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.** In addition to increasing cybersecurity spending on average by 10%, nearly all of the CEOs said security spending would remain steady or rise slightly during 2004. Likewise, **99 out of the 100 CEOs surveyed said their companies have crisis communications programs for employees.** As many as 88 said they have similar plans for customers, and 78 said a crisis communications plan had been put in place for suppliers. 97% of CEOs also said their companies have emergency response plans that have been updated in the two years since the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Nearly 90% of the companies test their emergency plans each year, and 40% test their plans at least twice annually, according to the survey.

Source: <http://www.computerworld.com/securitytopics/security/story/0,10801,90852,00.html>

**24. *March 04, ComputerWeekly.com* — Camera phones could threaten company security.** Businesses are concerned that camera phones can compromise their security and employees' privacy, and many businesses are trying to ban camera phones from their offices. **By 2006, more than 80% of mobile phones shipped in the U.S. and Western Europe will have cameras. As camera phones account for a larger portion of the overall mobile phone market, companies will need to implement security programmes that can be managed realistically.** "Most organizations simply do not have the staff or money to mount effective inspections," said Ken Dulaney, research vice-president at Gartner. "Instead, businesses should designate secure zones where restrictions on these devices are tight and can be enforced. For other workplace areas, staff should be given guidelines about what is acceptable." Gartner analysts said the flood of high-tech consumer devices, and not just camera phones, entering the workplace could, potentially, pose a security risk. "There are Universal Serial Bus 'key ring' drives, some of which will soon feature built-in cameras that can quickly connect to almost any recent PC and take large amounts of information off the premises. There is also a new wave of DVD burners to contend with," said Dulaney.

Source: <http://www.computerweekly.com/articles/article.asp?liArticleID=128876&liArticleTypeID=1&liCategoryID=2&liChannelID=22&liFlavourID=1&sSearch=&nPage=1>

**Internet Alert Dashboard**

Current Alert Levels	
 AlertCon: 1 out of 4 <a href="https://gtoc.iss.net">https://gtoc.iss.net</a>	 Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4 <a href="http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/">http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/</a>
Current Virus and Port Attacks	
<b>Virus:</b>	#1 Virus in the United States: <b>WORM_NETSKY.C</b> Source: <a href="http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html">http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html</a> , Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]
<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	3127 (mydoom), 445 (microsoft-ds), 135 (epmap), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 80 (www), 137 (netbios-ns), 1433 (ms-sql-s), 1080 (socks), 139 (netbios-ssn), 3128 (squid-http) Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center

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## General Sector

25. *March 07, Associated Press* — **Wind storm knocks bus from bridge.** A bus toppled from a bridge in southern Illinois on Friday, March 5, during blustery wind storms that tore across the Midwest with gusts topping 60 mph. The bus driver and a passenger were hospitalized. **Elsewhere, the wind pushed over trucks, peeled off rooftops and knocked out power to thousands in Illinois, Michigan and Ohio.** "It has been a day of truly going head-to-head against Mother Nature," Illinois' ComEd utility spokesperson Trent Frager said. The National Weather Service reported winds gusting to 58 mph near the Peoria airport and in Galesburg, meteorologist Kirk Huettl said. He added the wind overturned two trucks on a highway between Bloomington and Champaign. **In Chicago, wind gusting to more than 60 mph followed heavy rains Thursday night, sending debris flying off downtown high-rises and forcing the closure of several streets, police said.** ComEd's Frager said at the height of the wind storm, about 47,000 customers in northern Illinois were without power. All but 2,600 customers were restored by 8 p.m. Friday. In Michigan, the high winds knocked down a fabric dome covering a golf facility at Funtyme Adventure Parks in Okemos. Co-owner Paul Orlando said everyone was evacuated from the 100-by-70-yard dome and no one was injured.  
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/US/Midwest/03/06/midwest.storms.ap/index.html>
26. *March 05, Associated Press* — **Student charged with terror conspiracy.** A graduate student from Saudi Arabia—already jailed on immigration charges—has been accused of helping to raise funds for a militant Palestinian organization. **Sami Omar Al-Hussayen, a computer science student at the University of Idaho, was charged with conspiracy to provide material support to terrorism after federal prosecutors said he helped run Web sites that urge people to contribute money to Hamas.** Al-Hussayen, 34, has been in a jail near Boise, ID, since his arrest in February 2003. He was charged then with student visa fraud and making

false statements to obtain a visa. On January 9, federal prosecutors won an indictment adding the new charge. Al-Hussayen is scheduled to stand trial April 13. If convicted on the new charge, he could get up to 15 years in prison. The seven visa fraud charges carry 25-year maximum sentences, and the four false-statements counts have five-year maximums. Al-Hussayen's wife and children have returned to Saudi Arabia after being ordered by immigration officials to leave.

Source: [http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/ap/20040305/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/online\\_threat\\_2](http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/ap/20040305/ap_on_re_us/online_threat_2)

27. *March 05, Associated Press* — **Deadly storms, tornadoes flip homes in Texas, Oklahoma. Workers scurried to repair power lines in northern Texas and Oklahoma on Friday, March 5, after deadly thunderstorms and tornadoes flipped mobile homes and ripped roofs off other buildings. A freight train derailed Friday morning in central Oklahoma, and officials were investigating whether the tracks had washed out in the downpour. No injuries were reported.** Several twisters were reported in Texas, where gusts of up to 80 mph overturned tractor-trailer rigs. Homes were destroyed in east Texas, and minor injuries were reported. Classes were canceled Friday in Tuscola, and officials said it would take most of spring break to clean up damage. Heavy rains in parts of Kansas and Missouri, meanwhile, pushed streams out of their banks, blocked roads and flooded basements. Up to four inches fell in the Kansas City area. **The Union Pacific train was hauling automobiles from Kansas City, Kansas, to Oklahoma City when it derailed at a culvert near Kingfisher, railroad spokesman Mark Davis said. Davis said the crew reported seeing water before the accident.**

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/WEATHER/03/05/severe.storms.ap/index.html>

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